RAL9-2000-0036-US1

RECEIVED

OCT 0 9 2003

PATENT

Technology Center 2100

- 1 -

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Before the Examiner:

Philippe Damon et al.

Cao, Diem K.

Serial No.: 09/675,545

Group Art Unit: 2126

Filed: September 28, 2000

IBM Corporation

Title: AN EFFICIENT TIMER

P.O. Box 12915

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Dept. 9CCA, Bldg. 002

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of July 2, 2003 (Paper No. 8), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 2, 2003, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on September 30, 2003.

Signature

Serena Beller

(Printed name of person certifying)